

# Japan Christian Activity News

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GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST  
ON EARTH PEACE

A Great Joy  
Made known to us  
A Babe in a manger.

Query the arrogance of Caesar Augustus  
Indict emperor worship  
Condemn the insanity of the military expansion.

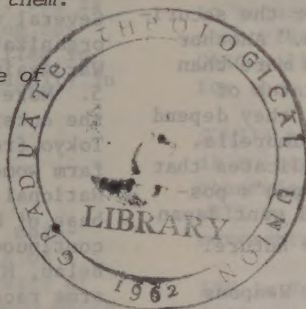
A Great Joy to the shepherds  
To the people who are low and powerless,  
and to the people who are with them.

A Babe in a manger  
God has regarded the low estate of  
His handmaiden.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

東海林 勤

Rev. SHOJI Tsutomu  
General Secretary of NCCJ



JAN 5 1982

## DEMONSTRATIONS FOR PEACE

CATCH HOLLANDITIS was the slogan of the 400,000 people's demonstration on November 21 in Amsterdam. Not only people from Holland, but people from all over Europe participated in this demonstration. Observing this demonstration, I noticed that regarding nuclear weapons there some differences in awareness between Europe and Japan.

The leading role in the anti-nuclear demonstration was taken by the Dutch Interchurch Peace Council, and it started with a prayer meeting at Nieuwe Church on November 20. One of the well-accepted symbols for the demonstration was a woman kicking a nuclear bomb up into the air. This humorous picture reflected everybody's concern that nuclear weapons of the United States and Russia have no business being on European soil. The word "Euroshima" (Hiroshima in Europe)



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was often used as an expression of their feeling of terror. Buses and trains in the city were free this day. Policemen were busy guiding the demonstration with about 300 volunteers.

The disasters in Hiroshima and Nagasaki created the foundation for Japan's peace movement. However for the majority of the Japanese people conceptions about peace are not formed into a definite plan, instead they simply assume the continuance of the present semi-peaceful state. The political will to observe the three non-nuclear principals prohibiting possession, manufacturing and introduction of nuclear weapons into Japan by the Japanese government contains many ambiguous aspects.

The Mainichi Shinbun survey indicated that 34% think that the nuclear umbrella of the United States is useful for the security of Japan while 17% said "No." Another magazine survey indicated that more than 60% support the non-nuclear status of Japan; less than 10% said that they depend on the United States' nuclear umbrella. The Mainichi Shinbun survey indicates that 56% of the people object to Japan's possessing nuclear arms while 40% want Japan to possess nuclear arms in the future.

The Public Hearing on Nuclear Weapons and Disarmament by the Commission of Churches on International Affairs and by the sub-unit on Church and Society of the World Council of Churches was held in Amsterdam (Nov. 22-27). The basic goal of the Hearing was the search for peace strategies in Europe and for ways to reject the superpowers' nuclear weapons. Issues involving a limited nuclear war on European land and current doctrines concerning the use of nuclear weapons were discussed extensively. The idea of a unilateral freeze of weapons from the United States was well-accepted by the participants.

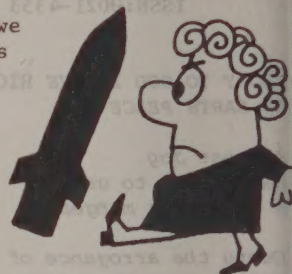
Mr. K. Subrahmanyam, from New Delhi, pointed out that a resolution in the United Nations General Assembly against the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons as being crimes against humanity received 112 favorable votes in 1980. Japan opposed the resolution, along with the NATO member countries. Thus, Japan was in agreement with other caucasian and industrial nations, with which it is allied militarily.

Although the numbers are small and there

is not yet a unified voice, people in Japan who wish peace in the world are now taking action.

(Aiko Carter)

Geen Nieuwe  
Kernwapens  
In Europa



## WOMEN UNITED AGAINST WAR

Several women's groups formed an action organization called "Women, Don't Allow War Again" which held a meeting on Dec. 5. More than 3,000 women congregated at the outside meeting hall in Hibiya Park, Tokyo from 1:00-3:00 p.m. A Japanese farm women's group which opposes the National Defense Forces' war games at the base of Mt. Fuji gave a report of their continuous struggle. J. Roman Bedor from Belau, Micronesia appealed, "The nuclear arms race by superpower nations is progressing endlessly. Japan is planning to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific, which threatens people's lives. We cannot have peace in these situations. Throughout history men created war. It is time to listen to women's voices." Representing the European anti-nuclear weapons movement, Leonie Caldecott from England explained why the Europeans are opposing nuclear weapons at this time.

The final statement called for a halt of production of all nuclear weapons and requested each to work persistently for the promotion of peace.

After the meeting the participants demonstrated from the park to Tokyo station calling for "Peace on Earth."#

## MOTHERS UNITED

"The Japanese Mothers Convention", under the leadership of Mrs. YAMBE Kazuko (3-2-2 Mejiro, Toshimaku, Tokyo 171), held a meeting at the Shinagawa Public Hall, Tokyo, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on December 8



prior to the meeting, the executive committee made an appeal in Yurakucho, Tokyo. 1,500 mothers participated in the meeting using the statement, "We don't need any arms, including nuclear weapons. Nuclear arms and remilitarization do not make peace. Neutralization without the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty is for Japan!"

Mrs. SEKIYA Ayako (Chairperson of NCCJ Nuclear Issues Committee) was invited to be a speaker at the meeting. The group decided to continue to write protest cards to Prime Minister SUZUKI Zenko requesting the legalization of the anti-nuclear principles in Japan. They have decided to send delegates to the nuclear disarmament meeting at the United Nations Special Session (June 7- July 9, 1982.)

The appeal reads, "Land is not for making military bases, but to make food. Sea is not for submarines but for fishing for food. Children are not to be killed in wars, but are to live together happily in family."

#### MONTHLY ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATIONS

Twenty women, along with several children, demonstrated on the streets of Tokyo on December 8, the anniversary of the Pearl Harbor attack. The group which was demonstrating on December 8 marches on the Second Tuesday of every month.

One of the organizers is Mrs. MORIYAMA Shigeko, 3-138 Midori, Sumida-ku, Tokyo 130. Ms. Moriyama said that she participated in this demonstration especially because 40 years ago today Japan started a new phase of World War II by invading Asian Countries. At that time women were not allowed to vote and had no effective way to oppose the war. Today, women who believe in the importance of peace should speak out against Japan's remilitarization."

"Nationalization of Yasukuni Shinto Shrine is the road to war," is the way one placard read. Another said, "Don't use the war dead to push Japan's remilitarization."

The group requests that more Christians as well as people of other religions, participate in the demonstrations which start each 2nd Tuesday 2:30p.m. from Shitaya Church (Kyodan) at 37-10, 3-chome, Higashi Ueno, Daito-ku, Tokyo 110. #

#### COMMENTS FROM A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION BY CHURCH LEADERS IN JAPAN ON CARC

*SHOJI:* The establishment of the Christian Asian Resource Center (CARC) was approved by the NCC-J Central Committee on July 9, 1981. Final approval by the NCC General Assembly in March, 1981 is anticipated.

The purpose of the center is to exchange accurate information regarding conditions of the churches and the societies in Asia and help the Japanese to share the pain and joy of mission with the church in Asia more widely.

Since NCC-J's involvement with Asian churches has increased it is more important that we understand the historical relationships between churches and their countries in Asia. We need to respond to requests by the churches in Asian countries for responsible cooperation. CARC will provide information necessary for that responsible cooperation.

*SUMIYA miko:* The purpose of the center is to serve churches in Japan and Asian countries by providing information which will be collected by a network of various movements.

*LEE In Ha:* It is important for churches in Japan to learn from the churches in Asia and to gain a perspective of their relations to present-day society. An example: When Japan exercised colonial control over Korea the Japanese KUMIAI Church (Congregational) did evangelistic work under the guidance of the Korean Governor-General, a Japanese colonial official. One reason that there is no KUMIAI Church in Korea today is because its evangelistic work ignored the historical context. They seemed to believe that evangelism was to be carried out through presenting a "pure" gospel unrelated to society.

Churches in Asian countries are struggling with how to deal with the power of the state and how to spread the gospel in the various traditional cultures. We have many things to learn from them. Under the present political and economic situation the churches in Asia should stand on the side of the people struggling under oppressive systems. It is necessary for us to have a new understanding of the church, one which is not provided by most present-day theology.



I want this center to witness to the fact of our suffering brothers and sisters in Asia.

**ISSHIKI YOSHIKO:** I attended the CCA General Assembly in Bangalore, India and saw women and the disabled stand up and become involved in social justice issues. CARC needs an antenna sensitive to catch peoples' activities related to social justice and to peace issues. These concerns should be made available to high school students in Christian schools and to young people who use the YM-YWCA.

**ARAI Tosh:** Churches in Asia have difficulties in speaking out on their political situations. Our responsibility is to understand by listening to the various voices as they speak out. The center should spotlight the churches and countries that other research organizations ignore. Also, the center should communicate with the various Japanese congregations in Asia so that these churches may become more ecumenical.

**LEE:** One purpose will be to show the other side of the economic picture that is well reported through other sources. Rather than have the center report on the GNP of various countries we would supply data about the human suffering side of the GNP picture.

**NAKAJIMA Masaaki:** Specifically the Center should have resources on the international situation in Asia, Christian activities, statistics, names of people and their work, information on other religions, human rights issues, multinational corporations and problems of military economy and voices against the prostitution industry.

**SUMIYA:** There are many groups in other parts of Japan that are concerned about churches in Asia. The Center will be able to supply resources and information for them.

**SHOJI:** The center will cooperate particularly with NCC-J member churches, interested groups and Christian schools.

Our plan is to translate important information on the churches in Asia, publish newsletters or possibly a quarterly magazine starting in April of 1982.

A fund-raising campaign is now underway under the supervision of the CARC Preparation Committee. Funds may be sent to NCC-J designated for that project.#

## CHANGES IN IMMIGRATION LAWS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1982

Various changes in the Immigration Laws and Regulations have been enacted and will become effective Jan. 1, 1982. These changes will make numerous procedures more simple, though more expensive. The status of refugees has been clarified.

There is concern that some of the changes may result in limiting the freedom of activity on the part of some foreign residents in Japan.

The immigration law has been changed so that refugee concerns are part of the immigration legal administrative structure. This is a change that makes clear in the law, where refugee concerns are to be handled.

### Legal Status of Aliens

\* Both the tourist visa and the transit visa are being done away with and are being replaced by a 90-day visa (4-1-4).

\* A new visa category for technical training (4-1-6-2) has been instituted.

\* A new visa category for the spouse and children of Japanese citizens (4-1-16-1) was set up.

\* In the past when it became necessary to extend the authorized period of stay granted upon entry to Japan, those applications were processed in accordance with the legal provisions set out by the Ministry of Justice. Decisions regarding the length of extension of the authorized period of stay will be made at the local level on the basis of the judgment of the local immigration authorities. This means that the almost automatic three year extension many missionaries have received in the past may not be given. The local immigration authorities will, on their own authority and on the basis of their own perceptions, make the decision regarding the proper length of stay to be granted.

This, in effect, gives the local immigration authority a greater degree of control than was theirs under the old law.

\* Aliens in Japan without passports (refugees, for example) will be eligible to receive a 4-page document indicating visa status. No longer will they be admitted on a tourist visa (4-1-4).



\* It will be possible to enter Japan with one visa status and change to another without leaving Japan. For example, if a person desires to enter as a student but cannot meet language requirements, that person could enter Japan, meet the language requirements for study in the desired institution and then change to a student visa.

#### Re-Entry Permit Items

\*It will be possible to secure a multiple re-entry permit while in Japan if need can be demonstrated.

\*Under the old law, if a person who was of Korean ancestry, even though born in Japan, went out of the country, that person had to return within 12 months in order to protect the status of resident-in-Japan. Under the new law the period of absence permitted without losing resident status can be extended to two years upon satisfactory petition at a Japanese Embassy or Consulate. This will make it easier for students who are Korean residents in Japan to study abroad.

\* Aliens who have no passport will be eligible to receive a 12-page travel document which will include a re-entry permit.

#### Permanent Residence Status Items

\* Under the law being replaced it was required that the children or spouse of Japanese citizens be of good character and not likely to become a public ward in order to be allowed to remain in Japan. This restriction has been removed.

\* For a five year period, those born as children or grand-children of permanent residents with Korean and Taiwan ancestry who lost their Japanese citizenship in Japan at the end of the war will be given permanent residence status on application.

#### Matters Related to Expulsion

\* No longer will mental disorders, the contraction of Hansen's disease, or the fear of one's becoming a public ward be a basis for the expulsion of persons from Japan.

\* It has been made clear that persons convicted of drug offenses may be expelled.

\* The new law states that a person who expresses fear for his/her personal safety in the country of origin will not be forced to return there.

#### Refugee Related Items

\* A new category for refugees has been established. Under this law refugees will be given a landing document (32 pages) which will indicate their status and can serve as a travel document. This category is not limited to those "of good character" nor are those "who may become public wards" excluded.

#### New Fees

Change in residence status	¥4,000
Extension of authorized stay	4,000
Permanent residence permit	8,000
Single re-entry permit	3,000
Multiple re-entry permit	6,000
Refugee travel document	6,000

#### MUTUALITY IN MISSION TO CANADA CONTINUING ECHOES

*The following letter to the editor of a Canadian newspaper illustrates how the "Mutuality in Mission to Canada" item reported last month is continuing.*

The Star-Phoenix (Nov 5, 1981) was sent to me in Tokyo. The article by Dale R. Schmeichel, a public relations man of a Canadian uranium company, challenged some of my statements on the nuclear issue. I would like to emphasize that my objection to France's nuclear weapons test in the Pacific and Japan's nuclear industry was primarily humanitarian, i.e., actual and potential damage to people. Mr. Schmeichel, however, seems to justify Canada's uranium mining from the economic point of view.

France has tested more than 87 nuclear bombs in the Pacific since 1963. Japanese newspapers report that France tested nuclear bombs on the Mururoa Atoll on December 5 and 8, 1981. A Tahitian testified against France's nuclear tests and reported on people's cries to stop the nuclear bomb construction. This protest was made at the Nuclear Disarmament Public Hearings organized by the World Council of Churches held in Amsterdam, Nov. 1981.



The issue of whether 40% of Japan's uranium imports come from Ontario or Saskatchewan is beside the point. The fact is that Canada, along with France, the U.S.A., South Africa and Australia, supplies uranium to Japan.

The danger of the misuse of "peaceful" nuclear facilities is a humanitarian concern. India constructed its plutonium bomb in 1974 from materials produced by the CANDU reactor, Canada's only "hard" nuclear technology for export. Pakistan, Argentina, and South Korea are also customers for CANDU reactors and Canadian uranium. Other potential customers are Indonesia, Philippines, Mexico and Brazil.

All nuclear reactors produce plutonium as a by-product in the atomic energy production process. This plutonium is readily convertible for use in building a nuclear arsenal.

The 1977 Ford Foundation Study estimated that by the mid-1980's South Korea could build up to 36 plutonium bombs a year by using the waste products from plants operating in that country.

It is now a reality for the first time in human history that third world countries, by the development of their own nuclear reactors, have the potential to produce nuclear weapons which threaten people's lives and the so-called international "balance of terror."

Canada has a great economic stake in the nuclear industry. I wonder if the Canadian people have facts related to the use of uranium for nuclear weapons and for energy.

Nuclear energy and nuclear weapons are inextricably linked.

AMOK (A French consortium of four French companies) and other multinational corporations have been destroying Canada's beautiful scenery and harming people through nuclear energy development. I heard Canadians complain of damage to nature and to people caused by nuclear energy related industries when I was in Canada. I also heard that AMOK restricts the flow of information about nuclear energy.

Many people question if nuclear energy is even needed. In 1974 when the so-called

oil shock hit Japan the politicians and electric companies went into the construction of nuclear energy facilities on a large scale. Twenty per cent of the electric company investments for 1974 were nuclear energy plant related. In 1978 Japan bought one billion dollars worth of uranium ore from the U.S.A. to help correct the U.S. trade deficit. In 1980 Tokyo Electric Company invested five billion dollars for nuclear energy.

On the average 13% of the electricity in Japan is now generated by 22 nuclear reactors. However, in August 1981, the month of highest demand for electricity in Japan, there was a total excess of electricity generating capacity of 25%.

In addition to the question of whether or not the nuclear energy is needed, there still remains the question of safety and land space requirements for the facilities. People in Japan are concerned that there have been so many accidents and malfunctions.

There is also the question of who will guard the useless, but highly dangerous, reactors after their productive life of 30 (some say 15) years is over. The half-life of plutonium is 24,500 years.

Based on a uranium energy economy Japanese business corporations will continue to move into Canada. Statistics indicate that in 1973 the Mitsubishi corporation invested \$1.7 million for uranium mining in Canada. The same corporation set up another mining company in Canada in Jan. 1977, with a capital of \$1.2 million. Electric companies in Japan have signed contracts for the purchase of uranium ore to supply reactors until 1990. Canada is the largest supplier of uranium ore in these contracts.

Because of the dangers related to the uranium industry Canada should take a courageous step toward a moratorium on uranium mining as was done in British Columbia, or at least make available to the public all information related to the nuclear industry. I have confidence that an informed Canadian populace will act wisely.

For the sake of future humankind we must stop the development of nuclear energy as well as the nuclear arms race. #

(Aiko Carter)



## DISABLED PEOPLES OF THE WORLD ORGANIZE

Over 400 delegates from 51 countries advocates for the world's weakest of the weak, gathered in strength in Singapore in early December for an historic event--the birth of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI). Influenced by worldwide freedom movements, disabled people began to organize during the '70s and all that energy and anger, hope and wasted talent, came together in Singapore, November 30 to December 4.

Early in the planning for Singapore, a \$20,000 contribution of seed money from the World Council of Churches gave great encouragement to this grass-roots, independent movement.

Apostle Paul would have loved it. Do you remember him, own "thorn-in-the-flesh" disability and his much neglected theology of weakness--something about God choosing what is weak in the world to shame the strong?

I attended the D.P.I. First World General Assembly as a member of the Japan delegation and I came away with some strong feelings: That the freedom that D.P.I. demands is offered to all persons, disabled or not, and it will come as salvation to some and a painful judgment to others; that D.P.I.'s goals are nothing less than world peace and justice, food and health and dignity for all; that God's hand is very much in evidence in this non-ideological and non-aligned organization; that I was jealous that I too did not have an obvious disability.

During the six days of intense and sometimes heated debate, the delegates from every cultural background, with every conceivable disability, adopted a constitution, endorsed a Charter, issued a statement, and elected a world council of 25 members from five world regions.

The new chairperson is Ron Chandran-Dudley of Singapore, blind, incidentally an active Christian. Deputy chairperson is Henry Enns, Wanada, in a wheelchair, on the staff of North American Mennonite Conference.

A statement released stated: Disabled people of the world--Are you aware that there are 500 million of us who are severely disabled?... Our primary demand is for full participation and equality in our society with equal rights and respon-

sibilities. We demand the ending of service providers' permanent domination of all all life decisions of disabled people. We demand the right to make our own decisions and we insist on equality of opportunity. The waste of human resources can and must be ended. Disabled people of the world--Join us is our struggle...Join us in our condemnation of policies that produce waste and destruction; policies of violence and war, policies of perpetuating poverty and undernourishment..."

Henry Enns quoted the new United Nations' Draft World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons, a plan that reflects the considerable influence D.P.I. leaders have already exerted on the U.N. Year of Disabled Persons Advisory Committee. "Disabled people are first and foremost citizens with rights and only secondly clients of social services." He called for a new view of humankind which must be adopted when planning our societies, a new philosophy for the 1980's and beyond.

Liam Maguire, Ireland, vice-chairperson for Europe, gave a moving address. "Here we have the root of the matter--investment in life, not death; in people, not aims. Although DPI is itself non-ideological and non-aligned, we must clearly understand that our struggle is a political struggle. We must talk economics and not be afraid to condemn current economic policies and abuse of resources, whenever necessary. Of the world's 500 million severely disabled people, at least 100 million are severely disabled solely because of malnutrition. The misuse of powdered milk infant formula contributes to the death of one million children every year, formula which multinational companies aggressively sell to mothers in developing countries. Millions more suffer brain damage from baby-bottle malnutrition. Marasmus, pellagra, beriberi and goiter and rife--yet the world's expenditure on the arms race is approximately 500 billion dollars per annum; one million dollars of expenditure every minute of every hour of every day on the production of horrific weapons of destruction to cause even more death and disability. The military expenditure of only half a day would suffice to finance the whole malaria eradication program of the World Health Organization and less would be needed to totally conquer river-blindness--the scourge of millions."

Most of the small group discussions and proposed plans of action were not aimed



so much at overcoming the physical and mental disabilities themselves but destroying the crippling handicaps of cultural and institutionalized discrimination.

(Tom Paton)

Mr. Paton is a member of the DPI Japan committee.

## KYODAN'S UNITING PROCESS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AT WCC CONSULTATION ON UNION

The Rev. IMAHASHI Akira and Prof. OGAWA Seiji attended a World Council of Churches Faith and Order sponsored consultation of United and Uniting Churches in Colombo Sri Lanka, Nov. 18-25. Mr. Imahashi, pastor of the Maita Church in Yokohama and former secretary of the United Church of Christ in Japan (Kyodan) attended as a church representative. Dr. Ogawa, professor at Tsukuba University attended as a resource person.

Prof. Ogawa did a case study presentation of the uniting process of the Kyodan entitled: "What is the Importance of Doctrinal and Liturgical Agreement as a Basis for "Successful Union?" His paper was to provide information of how a process of uniting (and division) had actually taken place and how that process is viewed after forty years.

The participants from Japan were able to respond to many questions about the Kyodan's history from church people who are themselves now facing some of the issues faced by the Kyodan.

## THE CHURCH AND ASIA'S FUTURE Conference Reports Available

The theme of the Fellowship of Christian Missionaries (FCM) which met at Lake Nojiri, Nagano Ken, July 29-31 was "The Church and Asia's Future."

The recent Fall issue of The Japan Christian Quarterly carries the addresses and brief reports on discussions following the addresses.

The majority of the speakers were leaders in the Japanese Church. The JCQ may be ordered from :Kyo Bun Kwan, 4-5-1 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104.

## KYODAN STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL MISSION

*The United Church of Christ in Japan (Kyodan) Commission on Mission in an Oct. meeting drafted a paper setting out the Kyodan's "Basic Understanding Concerning World Mission." It is anticipated that the paper will be finalized in July.*

*Excerpts from the Dec. Kyodan Newsletter:*

"In spite of the devout and yet often naive intentions on the part of many missionaries to bring the gospel to the underdeveloped and non-Christian people of the world, the missionary movement itself often strengthened and promoted the colonial expansion of the countries which sent these missionaries....

"We cannot think of mission without including a sense of world mission. And world mission must include within its scope an involvement with the issues of justice and peace on an international scale....

"In many cases in the past, missionaries were sent from 'the churches that have' in the so-called 'advanced' or 'civilized' countries, to the 'churches that have not' in the 'backward' or 'developing' countries. Christianity was spread in the form of flowing from a higher to a lower level, making use of its 'advanced civilization' to fill in the 'cultural gaps' with other countries. Thus, in areas where this sense of a civilization gap fades away, it seems that the need for missionaries also fades away....

"In determining the role of missionaries in world mission today, there must be an understanding of the following three principles. 1) Mutuality--not one-way traffic. 2) Joint Work--to tackle together in joint efforts the problems that confront both the sending and receiving churches, and sometimes with the cooperation of other world churches. 3) Representation--missionaries should be sent and received as representing their sending churches in seeking to grasp the real problems of their own countries by becoming involved with the problems confronting the receiving churches...."